

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims ~~1-6~~ and ~~16-26~~ without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. ~~/~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) An expandable tubing assembly comprising:
a tubular connector defining overlapping longitudinal slots and comprising an intermediate portion located between slotted end portions, the connector being radially expandable by deformation of fingers of material in the intermediate portion where adjacent circumferentially spaced slots overlap, and
lengths of expandable tubing defining overlapping longitudinal slots with nodes beyond the ends of the tubing slots and having slotted end portions, the tubing being radially expandable by deformation of fingers of material where adjacent circumferentially spaced slots overlap,
wherein the slotted end portions of the connector are threaded to the nodes of respective end portions of the tubing lengths and the deformable fingers of the connector are axially spaced from the deformable fingers proximate the slotted end portions of the respective tubing lengths.
3. ~~/~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the intermediate portion is of corresponding configuration of the tubing lengths, such that expansion characteristics of the connected tubing assembly are substantially constant.
4. ~~/~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 3, wherein the connector intermediate portion is of substantially the same wall thickness of the tubing and wherein the connector end portions are upset.
5. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 4 wherein each connector end portion defines an internal thread for engaging a corresponding thread on an outer surface of the respective tubing end portion.

6. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the connector end portions define grooves to receive corresponding tongues provided on the tubing length end portions.

16. (Cancelled without prejudice) An expandable tubing assembly, comprising:
a first and second tubular members having a plurality of longitudinal slots formed therein;

a connector threadably disposed between the first and second tubular members, wherein the connector comprises:

first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots formed therein; and

an intermediate portion located between the first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots that at least partially overlap the slots formed in the first and second ends.

17. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the slots formed in the first tubular member, the second tubular member, and the intermediate portion are expandable.

18. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 17, wherein the slots formed in the first tubular member, the second tubular member, and the intermediate portion are expandable to form substantially diamond shaped apertures.

19. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 17, wherein an inner surface of the first and second ends of the connector is threaded.

20. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 19, wherein the threaded inner surface of the first and second ends of the connector engage a corresponding thread on an outer surface of the first and second tubular members.

21. (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the first and

second ends of the connector include a recessed groove that receives a tongue disposed on an end of the first and second tubular members.

~~22.~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the connector is attached to the first and second tubulars using one or more means for connecting disposed between the circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots formed in the first and second ends of the connector.

~~23.~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) An expandable tubing assembly, comprising:
a first and second tubular members having a plurality of longitudinal slots formed therein;

a connector disposed between the first and second slotted tubular members, wherein the connector comprises:

first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots formed therein, wherein an inner surface of the first and second ends of the connector is threaded; and

an intermediate portion located between the first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots that at least partially overlap the slots formed in the first and second ends,

wherein the threaded inner surfaces of the first and second ends of the connector engage a corresponding thread on an outer surface of the first and second tubular members.

~~24.~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) The assembly of claim 23, wherein the slots formed in the first tubular member, the second tubular member, and the intermediate portion are expandable to form substantially diamond shaped apertures.

~~25.~~ (Cancelled without prejudice) An expandable tubing assembly, comprising:
a first and second tubular members having a plurality of longitudinal slots formed therein;

a connector disposed between the first and second slotted tubular members, wherein the connector comprises:

first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots formed therein, wherein an inner surface of the first and second ends of the connector is threaded and wherein the first and second ends of the connector include a recessed groove; and

an intermediate portion located between the first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots that at least partially overlap the slots formed in the first and second ends,

wherein the threaded inner surfaces of the first and second ends of the connector engage a corresponding thread on an outer surface of the first and second tubular and each recessed groove receives a corresponding tongue disposed on an end of the first and second tubular members.

26. (Cancelled without prejudice) A method for coupling an expandable tubing assembly, comprising:

providing a sleeve comprising:

first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots formed therein, wherein an inner surface of the first and second ends of the connector is threaded and wherein the first and second ends of the connector include a recessed groove; and

an intermediate portion located between the first and second ends having a plurality of circumferentially spaced, longitudinal slots that at least partially overlap the slots formed in the first and second ends,

providing a first and second tubular members having overlapping longitudinal slots that include an overlapping portion and non-overlapping portion; and

coupling the sleeve to corresponding threads on an outer surface non-overlapping portion of the first and second tubular members.

Please add the following new claims:

Sub H. 27. (New) An expandable connection between two slotted tubulars, the connection formed by co-joining the ends of the tubulars to form a connection region having a non-overlapping slots.

28. (New) The connection of claim 27, further including a connector portion for receiving the tubular ends to provide two connection regions, one at each end of the connector having non-overlapping slots therearound.

29. (New) An expandable connection for wellbore tubulars comprising:
a first tubular having a first connection member on a first end thereof;
a second tubular having a second connection member on a second end thereof,
the first and second connection members being inter-engagable; and
a substantially cylindrical member disposed adjacent the inter-engaged first and second connection members.

4, 30. (New) An expandable connection for expandable tubulars comprising:
an expandable tubular having a first end, the first end having a first connection member;
a second connection member, the first and second connection members being inter-engageable along a first substantially cylindrical surface; and
a second tubular member adjacent a portion of the inter-engaged first and second connection members along a second substantially cylindrical surface.

31. (New) The expandable connection of claim 30, wherein at least one of the cylindrical surfaces is a threaded surface.

32. (New) The expandable connection of claim 30, wherein the second tubular member is disposed outwardly of the connection members.

33. (New) The expandable connection of claim 30, wherein the second tubular is disposed inwardly of the connection members.

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